

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SAJ-01

AID-05 IO-10 MC-02 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /080 W

----- 122220

R 111030Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1710

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USUN MISSION NEW YORK 491

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 1534

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, VN, VS

SUBJ: MADAME BINH DEPARTS AND GOA ANNOUNCES FURTHER STEP
OF RECOGNITION

REF: KABUL 1439 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: PRG "FOREIGN MINISTER" MADAME NGUYEN THI BINH'S TWO-DAY VISIT TO KABUL (PLANNED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS) WAS FOLLOWED BY GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN (GOA) ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECOGNITION OF "GOVERNMENT" SHE REPRESENTS. THIS A DUBIOUS CLIMAX IN THAT, DESPITE SOME WAFFLING, IT HAD LONG APPEARED GOA RECOGNIZED PRG, IF ONLY ON "DE FACTO" BASIS. NEITHER LATEST AFGHAN DECISION NOR ITS TIMING LIKELY MOTIVATED BY U.S. DECISION TO RESUME ARMS SHIPMENT TO PAKISTAN, YET WE SENSE AN ATTITUDE HERE THAT LATEST AVOWAL OF PRG RECOGNITION WAS, PERHAPS, NOTICE TO U.S. THAT AFGHANISTAN TOO HAS MEANS OF EXPRESSING SENSITIVITIES. END SUMMARY

2. PRG "FOREIGN MINISTER" MADAME NGUYEN THI BINH LEFT KABUL BY AIR MORNING MARCH 7 FOLLOWING TWO- DAY "OFFICIAL
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AND FRIENDLY" VISIT DURING WHICH SHE SAW PRESIDENT DAOUD,

DEPUTY PRIMZ MINISTER SHARQ, AND DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER (IN EFFECT ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER) WAHEED ABDULLAH. IT REPORTED HERE SHE WENT ON TO CAIRO AND TRIPOLI. (NOTE: PER KABUL 0644 WE LEARNED JANUARY 27 MRS. BINH HAD SOLICITED INVITATION AND GOA HAD ACCEPTED. NO FURTHER NOTICE OF VISIT GIVEN HOWEVER UNTIL MADAME BINH STEPPED FOR PLANE.)

3. MARCH 1 VERNACULAR PRESS CONTAINED MFA STATMENT TO EFFECT THAT GOA HAD "RECOGNIZED" THE PRG, WHICH SEEMED CURIOUS IN LIGHT RECENT REITERATIONS BY MAF OFFICIALS (REFTEL) THAT DE FACTO RECOGNITION DATED FROM SEVERAL YEARS.

4. AMABASADOR SAW WAHEED ABDULLAH MARCH 9 AND DURING CONVERSATION COVERING SEVERAL SUBJECTS PRESENTED US VIEWS ON PRG AND ASKED WHY FURTHER ELABORATION BEING MADE OF AFGHAN-PRG RELATIONS. ABDULLAH REPLIED THAT, IN BRIEF, ALGIERS CONFERENCE OF NON-ALIGNED NATIONS (SEPTEMBER 1973) HAD BOUND AFGHANISTAN SOONER OR LATER TO TAKE THIS ACTION.

5. IN OTHER MARCH 9 TALKS BETWEEN POLCOUNS AND MFA INFORMATION DEPT. CHIEF FARHANG AND ACTING THIRD SECTION DIRECTOR (FOR SOUTH, EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN AFFAIRS) JAHANGIRI, INFORMATION ELICITED THAT AFGHANISTAN NOW EXTENDS "FULL" OR "DE JURE" RECOGNITION TO PRG. THIS NOTIVATED MFA PUBLIC STATEMENT, ALTHOUGH STATEMENT ITSELF FAILS TO MAKE THIS PRECISELY CLEAR. ASKED WHAT MOTIVATED ALTERATION, JAHANGIRI ASSERTED THAT WHILE PRG NOT IN "FULL CONTROL" OF TERRITORY OF VIETNAM ITS GRASP CONSIDERED "MORE SUBSTANTIAL," THAN THAT OF OTHER CONTENDERS. HE ALSO THEN ATTRIBUTED DECISION TO ALGIERS CONFERENCE WHICH HAD RESOLVED "IN STRONGEST TERMS" THAT NATIONS REPRESENTED OFFER FULL DIPLOMATIC, POLITICAL AND MORAL SUPPORT TO PRG.

6. NOTE: IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH POLCOUNS ON OTHER SUBJECTS, JAHANGIRI RAISED ISSUE OF RESUMPTION OF U.S. ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN, AND LATER WENT ON TO SPECULATE ABOUT THE GREAT INFLUENCE MWNY AFGHANS PERCEIVZ U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

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AS HAVING IN PAKISTAN. DIRECTION OF CONVERSATION GAVZ INDICATION THERE MIGHT BE LINKAGE BETWEEN U.S. DECISION AND AFGHAN ACTION TOWARD PRG, EVEN THOUGH JAHANGIRI DENIED THIS IN REPLY TO BARE QUESTION. THERE NEVERTHELESS EMERGED FROM THE TALK WITH JAHANGIRI, AND EVEN TO AN EXTENT FROM AMBASSADOR'S TALK WITH WAHEED ABDULLAH, NOTION THAT MANY AFGHANS ARE EXPERIENCING A CERTAIN GRIM SATISFACTION IN REGARDING OUR DISCOMFITURE OVER AFGHAN-PRG

DEALINGS. ABDULLAH, FOR EXAMPLE, SAID AT ONE POINT WHEN
AMBASSADOR RAISED U.S. CONCERN AT GOA RESPONSE TO U.S.
DECISION RE ARMS TO PAKISTAN "BUT YOU SHOULD REALIZE THAT
WE TOO HAVE OUR SENSITIVITIES." WITHOUT ASSIGNING GOA
ACTION TOWARD PRG AS DIRECT RESULT OF USG ACTION TOWARD
PAKISTAN, IT SEEMS LIKELY MANY AFGHANS BELIEVE THEIR PRG
ANNOUCEMENT AN APPROPRIATE "REJOINDER."

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